



Navy-Marine Golf Clubhouse open for business with first-class food... B-1

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Serving the 'Best Homeport in the Navy'



Region and Naval Station honor newly pinned chiefs at annual Khaki Ball... A-4

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Region says 'Aloha' to CMCs



JOC Gerard Sekerak photo

CNOMC (SS/SW/AW) James Russell (left) shakes hands with incoming Navy Region Hawaii Command Master Chief ENCM (SW) Ron Downs while Russell's wife looks on.

Downs relieves Russell as Command Master Chief for Navy Region Hawaii

JOC Gerard Sekerak
Editor

There was no change of command ceremony and little pomp and circumstance, but Navy Region Hawaii bid a farewell and a welcome to two seasoned senior leaders yesterday.

At a small informal lunch-time gathering at the new Navy-Marine Golf Course Clubhouse, outgoing Navy Region Hawaii Command Master Chief (CNOMC), Machinist's Mate

Master Chief(SS/SW/AW) James P. Russell received his end of tour award - the Meritorious Service Medal - for his accomplishments between May 1999 and September 2001. The award was presented to Russell by Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway Jr.

Russell's award presentation preceded the introduction and welcoming of his relief, Engineman Master Chief (SW) Ron Downs, who comes to Hawaii from Norfolk Naval Shipyard with his wife and two children.

Russell, a 20-year Navy veteran, heads next to the Navy Yard in Washington D.C. to serve as the first CNOMC for Task Force EXCEL (Excellence through Commitment to Education and Learning), a Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) initiative

which will provide new tools and opportunities to enable Sailors to learn, grow and develop into successful leaders who make a difference in the Navy.

"The idea is to keep Sailors in the Navy, to make them feel like they're cared for both professionally and personally, and to allow them to meet their potential," said Russell referring to both his former and his future assignments.

He noted that he expects his new job to be both challenging and interesting, but more importantly he looks forward to working on a project that is geared towards having a more immediate impact on how the Navy does business.

"You work for the long term, and in your short term you generally just try to make things better," said Russell a

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Plastic cup patriotism



J02 Jim Williams photo

A patriotic display made up of plastic cups can be seen on a fence near the Makalapa gate at the Kamehameha and Radford intersection.

American Red Cross mobilizes support

American Red Cross
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services (AFES) is marshalling resources at more than 100 installations nationwide and around the world to assist members of the U.S. military and their families as troops ready their response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America.

Serving active-duty military personnel and their families for more than a century, the Red Cross recently enhanced its reach to the community-based military: the National Guard and Reserves. In the months ahead, active-duty military, Guardsmen and Reservists will be separated from their families.

"Every day, Red Cross AFES carries the sad news of a death, or the joyful news of a birth, to servicemen and women worldwide, and we often arrange emergency travel, enabling military families to be together," said Sue Richter, vice president of AFES.

"The long separations and stressful situations that occur when a service member is stationed abroad often places a serious emotional strain on families," Richter continued.

"The Red Cross keeps military personnel and their families close through services including confidential counseling as well as neutral, impartial assistance when and where needed, particularly during times of crisis at home."

Through its network of more than 1,000 chapters nationwide and 20,000 employees and volunteers working in offices on military installations across the world, the Red Cross provides emergency services around-the-clock and around the globe.

Every day, hundreds of U.S. service men and women use the Red Cross for worldwide emergency communication with families, confidential counseling, access to financial assistance for military families in crisis, family support and veterans assistance.

On average, AFES works with more than 15,000 families each month.

In 2000, AFES transmitted 53,472 e-mail messages and received 52,696 replies for both military and civilian personnel working around the globe for the Department of Defense.

Combining the "high touch" for which they have long been recognized with today's "high-tech" systems and equipment, Red Cross employees and volunteers help to bridge the communication

▼ See RED CROSS, A-2

CFC donations can be earmarked for Sept. 11 victims

Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — As part of this year's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the director of the Office of Personnel and Management has authorized special solicitations of federal employees — including Department of Defense (DoD) civilian and military — and other initiatives to provide relief for victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks at the New York World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

In a Sept. 12 memorandum for heads of federal departments and agencies, Office of Professional Management Director Kay Cole James wrote: "In view of the magnitude of the attacks on the World

Trade Center and the Pentagon, I am authorizing department and agency heads to allow a special solicitation of federal employees at the workplace.

"Such a special solicitation will allow federal employees to assist the ongoing relief efforts in New York City and the National Capital area with a one-time cash or check donation, outside the normal CFC procedures," James added.

Additionally, "a number of special relief funds have been created or will be created to deal with the relief efforts in the New York City and National Capital areas," James noted in the memo.

DoD's CFC campaign and associated terrorist victim relief solicitations "are starting up already

for those organizations that have received supplies and have had their CFC key workers and team captains trained," said W. Stephen Kelly, director of Washington Headquarters Services' voluntary campaign management office. DoD's CFC ceremonial kickoff, he added, is slated for Oct. 2.

Kelly recommends that military and DoD civilians use their CFC pledge cards to choose payroll deduction contributions, noting that organizations are currently receiving "record amounts of cash and checks" earmarked for terrorist attack disaster relief.

"I'm confident they would also strongly welcome payroll deductions, knowing such deductions for understandable reasons tend to be four to five times larger than

cash or check contributions and keep coming to them across the year," Kelly remarked.

A number of charitable organizations that take part in CFC are involved in the New York and Washington relief efforts, James said. Employees can continue to direct their contributions to designated charities during the CFC, she added.

However, James added, "the CFC of the National Capital Area and the New York City CFC are uniquely equipped to receive and distribute employee contributions, either to existing CFC charities that are involved in relief efforts," or to the specially created relief funds.

For more information, go to the <http://www.opm.gov/cfc>.

It's hurricane season: If hurricane warnings are issued, are you prepared?

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

We are well into hurricane season now and although the islands have not been threatened by one of the storms yet this year, island residents should continue to be alert, be aware and stay prepared.

A hurricane story published in the Aug. 3, 2001 edition of Hawaii Navy News provided a checklist of what to do to make preparations when a hurricane watch is issued. Remember — a hurricane watch is

the first advisory and is issued when there is a strong possibility that a storm could threaten coastal or inland communities within 36 hours or less.

If the storm is still headed on course for Hawaii, a hurricane warning will be issued when there is a high possibility that hurricane force winds will arrive within 24 hours or less.

By now, you have accomplished the items on your checklist (if you haven't, you should do so without delay) and are now closely moni-

toring weather advisories for more information about the approaching storm.

Plan now before the storm arrives; avoid waiting until the last minute — that could leave you marooned and/or unprepared.

Don't pay attention to rumors. Rely only on accurate sources of information — such as emergency broadcast system announcements on radio and television, Navy Channel 2 and the other emergency numbers (Civil Defense, NWS, etc.) that will give up-to-

date information. The emergency broadcast system will also provide details on the location of evacuation shelters and opening times.

It is also important that you stay off the roads during high wind conditions. If you are outside and the wind is strong enough to blow down signs and tree branches, immediately seek shelter. You can be knocked down by strong winds or injured by flying debris.

Park your car in a garage or in an open space away from trees and utility poles. It isn't a good idea to

park in an underground garage that may flood.

Bring your pets inside. Make sure you have plenty of newspaper available for sanitary purposes. Try to keep your phone lines clear unless you need to contact authorities with emergency information.

Board or tape windows if winds are expected to exceed 100 mph. Small windows can be broken from wind-driven debris. Large windows may be shattered by wind pressure. Such items as sand bags

▼ See HURRICANE A-2